

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: M.D. PAK; Art Unit: 1646; Docket No.: 1896

In RE: Application of V. PATCHEV, et al

Title: In vitro Screening for Ligands of the Estrogen Receptor

Ser. No.: 09/989,952

Filed: November 20, 2001

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
JAN 04 2005**

January 4, 2005

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents

and Trademarks,

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In advance of action of the merits of the claims, please make the following changes and consider the following REMARKS: